



City of Highland

March 13, 2018

Kathryn Olson, Board Chair
Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 West Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor
Springfield, Illinois 62761

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MAR 19 2018

**HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

Re: Northgrove Dialysis (Proj. No. 17-049)

Dear Ms. Olson:

I am the Mayor of Highland, Illinois, a community located 35 miles east of St. Louis. Highland has a long history of being a progressive municipality, successfully blending industry within a small town atmosphere. Highland is proud to be home to a highly rated school district, library, and hospital. Highland has entrepreneurial roots and more local businesses than are typical of a city our size. I pride myself on the high quality of life that Highland residents enjoy. However, like many small towns in Illinois, our population is aging and residents face increasing chronic health issues and other challenges associated with becoming older.

Unfortunately this has led to an increase in kidney disease in the community. An increasing number of Highland residents need dialysis to survive and we do not currently have a local dialysis clinic. This requires residents to routinely travel significant distances for their care. For this reason, I enthusiastically support the proposed Northgrove Dialysis project to bring dialysis services to Highland.

Residents who require dialysis must currently commute more than 30 miles round trip, three times a week, for their care. This places an additional burden on patients who are already sick and often rely on others for transportation. It is also particularly worrisome for those who have poor eyesight or have decreasing mobility and should not be driving long distances, in sometimes inclement weather. Highland residents deserve better access to life-saving health care services.

I fully support the proposed Northgrove Dialysis clinic and I appreciate DaVita's efforts to bring dialysis services to Highland. I respectfully request that the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board approve the project.

Sincerely,

Joseph R Michaelis
Mayor



Chair Kathryn J. Olson,
Illinois Health Facilities and
Services Review Board
525 West Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor
Springfield, Illinois 62761

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MAR 19 2013

**HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

Re: Northgrove Dialysis (Proj. No. 17-049)

Dear Ms. Olson:

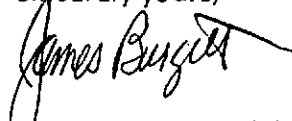
As a business leader, and senior citizen, in the Highland community - I am eager to see our community continue to grow and serve it's citizens. Highland has a reputation for being a progressive and caring community. We take pride in our new hospital and the many expanding services we are providing to both a growing and aging population.

As a former superintendent of schools in Highland, and a member of the hospital Board of directors, I am aware that one area of treatment that is becoming increasingly important for some of our citizens is kidney care services. We have a provider that is willing to bring these services to our community with the establishment of a small dialysis clinic: Northgrove Dialysis. It would be an extremely welcome and needed addition to Highland and many surrounding communities.

Having a dialysis clinic in town will avoid the long trips that Highland kidney patients have to make several times a week to receive treatment. It will also help to keep our residents loyal to our community and less likely to move. Most of all, it will be an extremely appreciated health benefit for many.

We support DaVita in its efforts to bring this service to Highland and I ask that the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board approve the proposed clinic.

Sincerely yours,



James Burgett